



BOX SEQUENCE
PATENT
2121-140P

JAN 20 2000

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Judith MELKI et al.
APPLICATION NO.: 09/109,082 GROUP: 1645
FILED: July 2, 1998 EXAMINER: R. Hayes
FOR: SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY DIAGNOSTIC METHODS
(As Amended)

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: January 18, 2000

Sir:

In response to the Office Communication mailed December 16, 1999, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner indicates that the first sequence of the original claim 16 has no SEQ ID NO. Applicants respectfully note that the first sequence of original claim 16 is AGACTATCAACTTAATTTCTGATCA. The sequence has been identified as SEQ ID NO:5 in a preliminary amendment filed July 2, 1998. The first "G" appears as a "C" in the originally submitted application due to a poor quality photocopy of the specification. This nucleotide is correctly designated as a "G" in the preliminary amendment. The same sequence (SEQ ID NO:5) also appears in claims 14 and 15, as well as on pages 11, 12, and 45 of the specification, where it is designated as primer "R111".